

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 08276 200029Z

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ACTION SCS-03

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 H-02 L-03 SNM-02 DEAE-00 DHA-02

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R 192345Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0061

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MEXICO 8276

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC, MX (DOUGLAS, JAMES RIDLEY)

SUBJECT: CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS ON AMERICAN PRISONERS  
IN MEXICO: FOLLOW-UP ACTION ON DOUGLAS CASE

REF: STATE 194237, 197924 AND 201713

1. EXTORTION BY LAWYER: DOUGLAS TOLD CONOFF SEPT. 4 THAT  
HIS BROTHER HOWARD E. DOUGLAS IS TAKING CARE OF THE MATTER  
CONCERNING MANUEL CARDENAS GUTIERREZ.

2. WORK COMMISSION: DOUGLAS SAYS HE WAS REMOVED FROM WORK  
BECAUSE "MAYOR" FERNANDO GARDINER WANTED \$100 DOLLARS, WHICH  
DOUGLAS REFUSED TO PAY. WHEN EMBASSY RAISES THIS ISSUE WITH  
APPROPRIATE AUTHORITIES ON FORMAL LEVEL THE REPLY IS EITHER  
THAT THEY WILL LOOK INTO IT, OR THAT THE PROBLEM DOES NOT  
EXIST. ON INFORMAL LEVEL OFFICIALS HAVE TOLD CONOFFS THEY  
KNOW "PAYOFFS" HAPPEN, BUT CLAIM THE SYSTEM IS TOO WIDE-  
SPREAD AND LONGSTANDING FOR THEM TO ATTEMPT TO CHANGE.  
THEY HAVE ALSO SAID THAT ONLY THE AMBASSADOR OR SOMEONE OF  
HIGHER LEVEL COULD SUCCESSFULLY PRESS THE MATTER.  
THIS SUGGESTS THAT THE PRISON SYSTEM IS EITHER UNCON-  
TROLLABLE OR PEREMEATED WITH CORRUPTION.

3. CONFISCATION OF PROPERTY: EMBASSY HAS TAKEN UP THIS  
MATTER WITH THE INDIVIDUAL COURTS. IN DOUGLAS' CASE,  
EMBASSY HAS NO NEW INFORMATION TO REPORT AT THIS TIME.

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 08276 200029Z

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 SEP 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION SCS  
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**Reference:** 75 STATE 194237  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11 SEP 2003  
**Review Event:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
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**TAGS:** CASC, MX, (DOUGLAS, JAMES RIDLEY)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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